



IN THE ABSTRACT

A quarterly newsletter from the Kentucky Cancer Registry

Large Hospital Edition

October 2002



KCR 2002 FALL WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

From intraoperative MRI to advanced coding, the 16th Annual Advanced Cancer Registrars' Workshop covered it all! Held at Hilton Suites Lexington Green on September 5th and 6th, eighty-nine attendees were educated on a broad range of topics. Physicians discussed "Diet as Prevention for Colorectal Cancer", "Anatomy and Staging of Head and Neck Cancer", and "Molecular Signatures of Isolated Human Cancer Cells...." The full house gave a standing ovation to Dr. Mike Nichols at the conclusion of his "Live and Let Laugh" session.

During the luncheon on day one, door prizes were awarded to four lucky attendees. Winners of special gift baskets included Tom Dobbins (King's Daughters Medical Center, Ashland), Marie Dunbar (Jewish Hospital, Louisville), Alice Dzenitis (Norton Hospital, Louisville), and

Marilyn Wooten (KCR). Following the lunch break, conference registrants were treated to a preview of the newly updated KCR website by Dr. Thomas Tucker. Kim Harrison and Frances Ross rounded out the afternoon session with information on an "ACoS Checklist" and "KCR as a SEER Registry".

Registry guru April Fritz led the conference in advanced coding of colon, breast, and lung cancer cases on day two. Tricky morphology and EOD coding issues were addressed. Sample problems were then worked in group fashion, and answer sheets were provided for additional problems. KCR-engraved gifts were presented to each attendee at the conclusion of day two. Conference evaluations were overwhelmingly positive.

NCRA PROGRAM RECOGNITION

The 16th Annual Advanced Cancer Registrars' Workshop was pre-approved by NCRA for a total of **9 CE hours. Please note the event number assigned by NCRA: 2002-122.**

NEW KCR WEBSITE

Comprehensive cancer incidence rates for Kentucky are now available in an easy-to-use format on the Kentucky Cancer Registry's new Website at <http://www.kcr.uky.edu>. Health professionals, policymakers, researchers, students, journalists and the public can quickly access cancer incidence rates, along with maps and charts, for the most current years. The information can be displayed by state, counties, groups of counties (area development districts), and Appalachian/non-Appalachian regions. The rates also can be defined by cancer type, gender, and race.

Cancer mortality rates for Kentucky will also be available on the website in a similar format within one month. The Registry is the state's official source for cancer incidence statistics. We encourage you to explore these valuable data resources which are made possible by the high quality work you do each day.

PEOPLE NEWS



Welcome to New Hires:

'	Agnes Caudill	ARH Regional Medical Center, Hazard
'	Tammie Rogers	Hardin Memorial Hospital, Elizabethtown
'	Heather Jo Sowder	Baptist Hospital East, Louisville
'	Brenda Priar	Owensboro Mercy Health System, Owensboro

Resignations:

'	Scottie Cornett	ARH Regional Medical Center, Hazard
'	Pam Courtney, CTR, RN, OCN	Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah
'	Rachel Tanner	Owensboro Mercy Health System, Owensboro
'	Amy Nunn	TJ Samson Community Hospital, Glasgow

Congratulations!

New CTR

'	Becky Bruno, CTR	KCR Regional Abstractor
'	Julie Simmons, CTR	Owensboro Mercy Health System, Owensboro

ACoS Cancer Program Approvals

Norton Audubon Hospital received full 3-year accreditation of its cancer program in August. Congratulations to registrars Barbara Janes, CTR and Rhonda Paul, CTR.

Norton Hospital was awarded full ACoS approval of its cancer program this summer. Registrars Michele Hoskins, CTR, Natascha Lawson, Wendy Drechsel, CTR, and Alice Dzenitis, CTR are to be commended.

NCRA Committee Member:

Donna Warwick, CTR, cancer registrar at Caritas Medical Center in Louisville, has been reappointed to the Formal Education Committee of the National Cancer Registrars' Association. Congratulations, Donna!

GOLDEN BUG AWARD!!!

A “triple bug” is being awarded in this edition of our newsletter. Hats off to Mary Wilson, CTR (U of L Hospital), Vivian Wyatt (U of L Hospital), and Sue Burns, CTR (St. Joseph Hospital). Mary discovered a bug that would not accept a myeloid sarcoma of lymph node. Vivian found that “zero” was not allowed for number of nodes removed for brain primaries. Sue found a PCE check on old field trial editions that caused multiple error messages. The software has now been fixed to accommodate these problems. Thank each of you for your contributions.~



CANCER AWARENESS MONTHS

October	Breast Cancer Lymphoma
November	Lung Cancer
January	Cervical Cancer

CTR Test News

The Spring 2003 CTR Exam will be administered by NCRA instead of the former National Board for Certification of Registrars. At printing time, the test date(s), fee(s), and sites had not been announced. It is presumed that the exam will be given sometime in March. Be sure to check the NCRA website (www.ncra-usa.org/) for future announcements. ~



AJCC 6TH EDITION VIDEOCONFERENCE

The American Joint Committee on Cancer is sponsoring a two-hour conference for cancer registrars and physicians on Thursday, November 21st. “The Changing Strategies of TNM Staging: Introduction to the AJCC 6th Edition” is the title of this videoconference which is being broadcast from ACoS Headquarters in Chicago. Participating facilities from Puerto Rico to Hawaii have made arrangements for this special broadcast. Facilities participating in Kentucky include Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center in Danville, Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Ashland, Kentucky Cancer Registry in Lexington, and University of Kentucky Hospital in Lexington.

The videoconference target audience includes physicians on cancer care teams, physicians in training, cancer registrars, and state cancer registries. Faculty will include Frederick L. Greene, MD, FACS, Chair of AJCC, Charles M. Balch, MD, FACS, Executive VP and CEO of American Society of Clinical Oncology in Alexandria, VA, and S. Eva Singletary, MD, FACS, Professor of Surgery at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. The conference will run from 1:00 – 3:00 PM EST (12:00 – 2:00 PM CST). Two CE hours will be awarded to attendees by NCRA, and attendance records will be maintained at each participating facility. If interested, contact the site nearest you to check on space availability. Lexington-area registrars are welcome to call KCR at (859) 219-0773 to make arrangements to view the conference here. AJCC is planning to videotape this event, and we will update our readers on its availability.~

A Question From Our Readers...

Question: How should we code Iressa chemotherapy?

Answer: Iressa/ZD1839 has not been approved by FDA, so it is given only in clinical trials. Code to “other therapy” code 31 or 32, depending on the nature of the clinical trial. (SEER)~

Cancer Registration Training Opportunities

December 2-6, 2002 – **“Principles of Oncology for Cancer Registry Professionals”**, Bolger Center for Leadership Development, Potomac, MD; for registration information, go to <http://seer.cancer.gov/training/oncology/> .

March 17-21, 2003 – **“Principles and Practice of Cancer Registration, Surveillance, and Control”**, Emory University, Atlanta GA; contact Steven Roffers, PA, CTR at sroffer@sph.emory.edu or phone # 404-727-4535.

March 24-28, 2003 – [New] **“Cancer Case Abstracting, Staging, & Coding”**, Emory University, Atlanta, GA; contact Steven Roffers, PA, CTR at sroffer@sph.emory.edu or phone # 404-727-4535.

SEER CODING QUESTIONS

The following questions were submitted by SEER registries to the SEER Inquiry System. These examples may help answer some of the coding problems you have encountered.

Question 1: Would we be correct in adding “imaging” to the size priority list for all EOD schemes?

Answer: You may use “imaging” to the size priority list for all EOD schemes. Imaging is given the low priority for coding size of tumor just above the physical exam. You may use the information from any imaging technique to code tumor size, even for those sites such as breast and bladder where specific imaging tests are mentioned. (SINQ #20020030)

Question 2: In reference to Single vs. Subsequent Primaries of Lymphatic and Hematopoietic Diseases, should we go by what the clinician/pathologist states or should we follow the instructions in the table?

Answer: If the physician clearly states that this is a new primary, use that information. Use the table when there is no clear information from the physician. (SINQ #20020031)

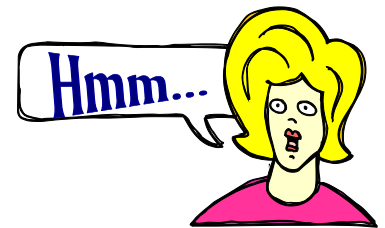
Question 3: We have noticed that MALT Lymphoma – M9715/3 (ICD-O-2) and M9699/3 (ICD-O-3) is excluded from SEER EOD top of page 180. We are using this coding scheme for MALT, correct?

Answer: Use the scheme on page 180 for MALT lymphoma. The morphology code was omitted in error. 9715 should have been added when EOD was printed in 1998. (Reference: SEER EOD, pg 180)

Calendar of Events

November 7-8, 2002 –	ICRA Annual Fall Conference Indianapolis, IN
November 20, 2002 –	LCRA @ Caritas Medical Center
November 21, 2002 –	AJCC 6 th Edition Cancer Staging Videoconference
December 4, 2002 –	LCRA 2003 Planning Meeting
March 2003 –	CTR Exam/ <i>date pending</i>
May 13-16, 2003 –	NCRA Annual Conference Pittsburgh, PA

Use your ICD-O-3 or AJCC staging manual to help find the correct terms!

[illegible]

1 “Cancerous”; term used as an adjective with each of the five “down” terms.
(Hint: begins with the letter “m”)

1 Type of tumor measured in Breslow thickness or Clark's Level
2 Non-Hodgkin _____
3 A form of brain cancer
4 Endometrioid _____
5 The "immature" form of this testicular tumor

What do the “down” terms all have in common? _____

*Answers: ACROSS: 1=malignant, 2=melanoma, 3=lymphoma, 4=adenofibroma, 5=teratoma. They're all OMA's!